**PATENT** 

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## **AMENDMENTS**

In response to the Office Action, and in accordance with 37 CFR 1.121(c), please enter the following clean set of claims in substitution for all pending claims with the same numbers. Amended claims are denoted as such in parenthetical following the claim number. A marked-up version of the amended claims is appended hereto.

## Clean Version of Claims

1. (Amended) A method for making a molded article, wherein said article includes a substantially vertical peripheral wall portion and a transverse outer edge portion, comprising:

(b)

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(a) heating a sheet of plastic material having a mold side and an exposed side to a first temperature, said first temperature being consistent with forming said sheet of plastic material in a thermoforming process;

placing said mold side of said sheet of plactic material over a mold, said mold having a first surface for forming said substantially vertical peripheral wall portion and further having a second surface substantially perpendicular to said first surface for forming said outer edge portion;

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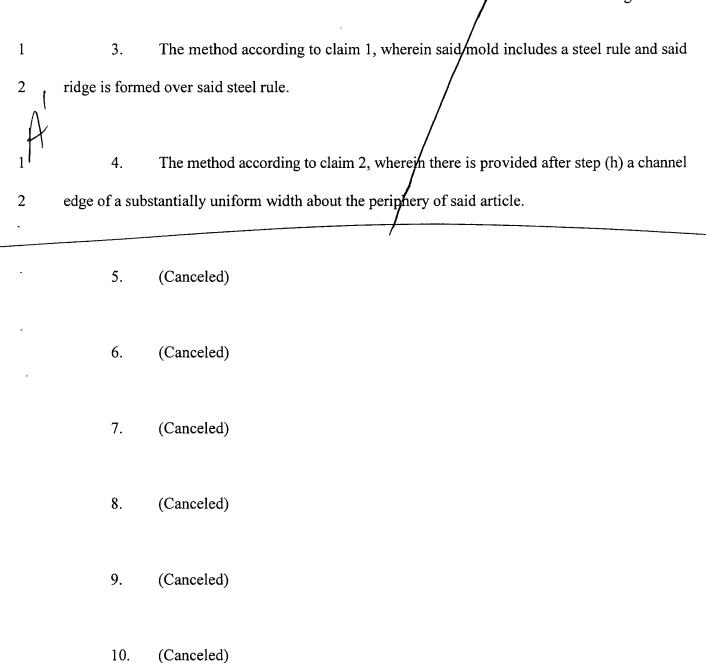
		/
10	(c)	applying a vacuum to said mold or compressed gas to said exposed side of said sheet
11		of plastic material such that air pressure on said mold side is less than the air
12		pressure on said exposed side;
13	(d)	forming a ridge along at least a part of said outer edge portion, said ridge being of a
14		substantially uniform height;
15	(e)	cooling said sheet of plastic material to a second temperature, said second
16	$\wedge$	temperature being consistent with said sheet of plastic material retaining its
17		molded shape;
18	(f)	releasing said vacuum from said mold of said compressed gas from said exposed
19		side;
20	(g)	removing said sheet of plastic material from said mold; and
21	(h)	after removing said sheet of plastic material from said mold, cutting said sheet of
22	•	plastic material along said ridge to release said article from said sheet.
1	2.	The method according to claim 1, wherein step (d) further includes forming said ridge
2	about the ent	irety of said outer edge portion at a substantially coequal distance from said wall
3	portion.	

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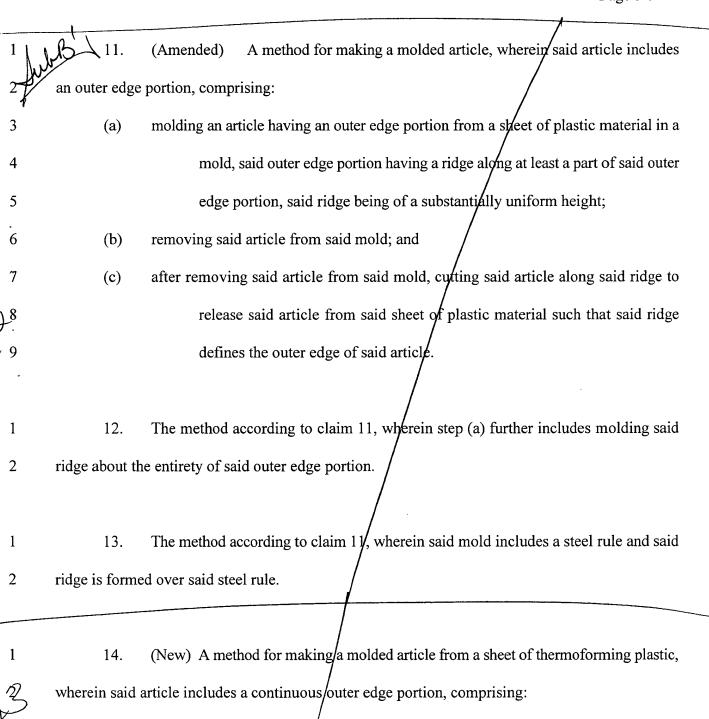
10.

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		1
3	(a)	heating a sheet of plastic material having a mold side and an exposed side to a first
4		temperature, said first temperature being consistent with forming said sheet of plastic
5		material in a thermoforming process;
6	(b)	placing said mold side of said sheet of plastic material over a mold, said mold having
7		a steel rule of substantially uniform height positioned about the periphery of said
. 8		mold;
. 9	(c)	applying a vacuum to said mold or compressed gas to said exposed side of said sheet
<sup>10</sup> 2		of plastic material such that air pressure on said mold side is less than the air pressure
11		on said exposed side;
12	(d)	forming a ridge over said steel rule along the entirety of said outer edge portion such
13		that said plastic material is substantially weakened along said ridge to facilitate a
14		trimming operation;
15	(e)	cooling said sheet of plastic material to a second temperature, said second
16		temperature being consistent with said sheet of plastic material retaining its molded
17		shape;
18	(f)	releasing said vacuum from said mold or said compressed gas from said exposed
19		side;
20	(g)	removing said sheet of plastic material from said mold; and